

was appointed to give the Bible lesson at the monthly meeting of the Woman's Aid Society. She accordingly went to the Lord, as she always does, to find what portion of His word she was to give. The 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians was at once strongly impressed upon her mind, but Agnes shrank from it as being a *most unfitting* subject for this particular occasion and that after all it was not the Lord's voice she had heard. She again besought Him, but with the same response strong and clear so that she no longer doubted the voice, and after a little hesitancy, she yielded for her consecration meant *yes* to God's will at all times. Upon reaching the meeting, after the business session, she found the sisters all in a confusion over a few questions they could not agree upon and the result was tongues that had not been bridled spoke unkindly to one another and a general ill feeling prevailed. Agnes delivered the King's message, not even daring to comment upon it, simply reading that great love chapter in the power of the Spirit. The result was marvellous, yet not more than what it always is, in effect when God uses his own word in his own way. The breath of the Almighty moved upon those erring hearts in the solemn hush that followed. The president at once begged forgiveness of those with whom she contended and amid tears of penitence the others followed her noble example. 'Tis a touching scene and we refrain from adding anything lest we mar its beauty. But oh, the power of a consecrated life, the mighty power of God! Her life is full of similar instances where she is simply the "Rod of God" by which she shows His power; but this one must suffice and in it we would also mark the power that lies in God's written word. In truth, the secret of Agnes' power lies not only in her uncompromising loyalty to the will of God, but also in the close study of the same. Lord Bacon says, "Knowledge is power," and in nothing is it more true than in a knowledge of the holy scriptures, which necessarily belongs to a consecrated life. A soul thus enriched with Bible knowledge and entrusted with the eternal forces of the Deity, accomplishes what all human power would vainly try to perform.

The whole community, or those with whom Agnes comes in contact, shares in the blessings of her "life hid with Christ in God." An hour at noon, when the working men are taking their rest, is frequently spent in furnishing them with spiritual food, reading a portion of God's word, singing and praying with them. Her presence is thus a continual benediction and her influence and Bible expositions are helping many hearts to know Jesus. But does her work stop here at our shores? No, no, thank God no! Then might we doubt her consecration. For the fully consecrated soul has caught the Master's spirit—the same that moved those holy lips to say, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Across the ocean, amid the darkness and death-shade of India, is her little Rachel, a

native teacher whom Agnes, with a few friends, is supporting the year around. In a recent letter Rachel tells how wonderfully the Lord filled her with Himself and is blessing her work among the children. Oh, for more of this yielded material in our S. S. C. E. ! If only one such consecrated life could be found in each loyal society to set the little wheels into motion with the rapidity of God's own power and these working together to move the larger wheels, which, when brought to bear upon the one great wheel at our National Conference, there would be generated such an irresistible power that it would sweep away the mountains of indifference and selfishness, dispatching us to the farthest shores of heathendom, with such force that soon the cry of new born souls would reach the heavenly shores and set the angels to rejoicing and move the great heart of God.

## Our Young People

### THE ROSE'S THORN

C. F. YODER

Hast thou considered troubled dears

The meaning of the rose's thorn?

Why with our joys are sorrows born  
And every life must have its tears?

Some evil beast might else devour

The tender rose, and selfish joy

Unchecked by pain might soon destroy  
Thy sympathy and love and power.

Were life one long unending day

These bodies would full soon recoil

Beneath the wear of ceaseless toil  
And turn once more to senseless clay.

Could summer's sun forever shine

Undimmed by passing cloud or night,

Fair earth would soon be parched and blight  
And all life perished,—even thine.

Did fortune smile upon thy lot

Continuously, thy human heart

Might also sear and cease its part  
And all thy duties be forgot.

But God knows best who sends the rain

And freezing cold upon the earth,

And mellowed soil reveals their worth  
When tempered by the sun again.

Could'st thou but see thro' Calvary's tears,

For blasted hopes and vacant chair,

There stands a cup of blessing there  
Which sweeter grows with growing years.

Then fret not for the passing pain

But bless the cup,—the Master's cup

Which teaches thee to e'er look up  
And count thy loss as richest gain.

Soon will the day eternal dawn

Where roses lack the piercing thorn,

Where none shall part and none shall mourn  
But safe in heaven live on and on.

### WHAT IS TRUE SUCCESS?

Matt. 16:21-27

Topic Sept. 25.

Vital themes never lose their interest. Probably the above subject has been chosen for as many graduating essays as any other and yet it is full of interest. Every young man or woman worthy of the name desires to make a success in life. But there are so many false notions of success that unless one takes heed according to the old book there is danger of measuring life according to a low standard. How many still measure success in life by the amount of

pleasure or gain or popularity they can get out of it for themselves! And how different is this standard from that of the gospel which teaches us to look every one not only upon his own but also upon another's good. Every single person ought to study the scriptures on the topic this week and seek the Bible standard of success not only for themselves but teach it also to others and thus help to rid the world of some of its selfish ideas of life.

#### THE SCRIPTURES ON SUCCESS

First, what it is not:

1. It is not riches, Luke 12:15; Jas. 2:5.
2. Not learning alone, Eccl. 1:18; 1 Cor. 3:19. Jas. 3:17.
3. Not pomp nor power, Isa. 5:14; Luke 14:11.
4. Not popularity, Prov. 16:5; Rev. 3:17, 18.
5. Not pleasure, Prov. 21:7.

What success is

6. In business, Prov. 13:7; 30:8; 16:18; Matt. 6:19, 20.
7. In society, Prov. 22:1; Matt. 23:11.
8. In government, Rev. 21:24-26.
9. In character, Matt. 5:3; Prov. 19:22.
10. In the kingdom, Matt. 18:4 and 5:19.

#### Conditions of Success

11. Psalms 111:10; Josh. 1:8; Prov. 3:4; Rev. 21:7; Matt. 10:22.
12. Our guiding principle, Jer. 45:5; Matt. 6:33.

#### SUBJECTS FOR OPEN DISCUSSION

1. What are some common false notions of success?
2. What are some wrong ways of obtaining success?
3. How was Solomon's life an example of worldly success and yet of failure?
4. Was the life of Stephen the martyr a success? How?
5. True success is measured not by what we get out of life but by what we put into it. How is this true?
6. That is true success which is nearest the will of God. Explain.
7. What were the elements of success in the life of Christ?
8. How may we spread correct ideas of true success?

C. F. YODER.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### "With Your Might"

This is our motto for the coming year. It was suggested by the committee on Resolutions and adopted by us at our recent conference. It would be difficult to find a better and a more needed one. Frequently it is said that our great lack is a *lack of ability*; but the more we know about the church, the more are we driven to conclude that our great lack is not ability but a *lack of zeal*. Zeal added to ability will double ability. Therefore it is possible for us at once to double our ability. Besides what we lack in ability can be made up by a spirit of whole-heartedness. Many Christian workers have done so. What they lacked in natural equipment or mental training they made up by earnestness and diligence. Zeal is an indispensable element to success in any work, and no Christian worker has ever reached the highest possible success without it.

#### Zeal vs Knowledge

There is a zeal according to knowledge, and a zeal not according to knowledge. The first is not only the most powerful but the one most in accord with the divine plan. Zeal and knowledge make a powerful com-